

Boston Feby 5<sup>th</sup> 1781

My Dear friends



Your several favours of 28<sup>th</sup> Sept. and 5<sup>th</sup> Oct. came to hand a few days ago. Capt. Updike; on the rec<sup>d</sup>. of them fr Messrs. Sears and Smith, I was still in Connecticut therefore has not the pleasure of answering them by an opportunity which sailed during my absence from here. However by that conveyance I find my letters dated in Hartford &c. were sent - I wish the Robin, Capt. Carneau safe to hand, as likewise Capt. Grenel in the Beeky and Harriette, by the latter of which you will receive assistance on my acc<sup>t</sup>. of which I shall speak presently.

You may depend, my friends, that your representation of the St. Martins affair and the measures you pursued to make the proper impressions of that scandalous outrage on the minds of your leading men, shall be a step to your advantage on this side the water, and it affords me singular pleasure to have it in my power to assure you, that there are no insurmountable obstacles to prevent your house becoming as important as our warmest wishes can desire - provided our measures on this side the water, are not more unsuccessful than they have hitherto proved, and your States not involved in war on the wrong side of the house neither of which have I, from the present aspect of Public affairs, any reason to apprehend - On the contrary, with respect to Am<sup>r</sup>. matters, our prospects were never since the commencement of the war more flattering.

Our Legislatures, convinced by a long train of evidences some of which have been melancholy ones, that a paper currency without a fund to support it occasionally, must depreciate finally to annihilation, and consequently deprive us of the means of carrying on the war, when that currency was our sole dependance, have adopted measures, the execution of which already afford us the highest satisfaction and promise eventually the happiest issue to our troubles.

In lieu of taxing in paper, they tax in provisions cloathing and ever necessary for supporting an army, and instead of raising men for 6 months, one, two, or three years, as heretofore, they have ordered an army for the



the continuance of the war, which will be much larger, better regulated and officers than any we <sup>have</sup> yet brought to the field. We promise ourselves from the rapid success in levying troops and the probability of their being early in the field, the most glorious campaign, the ensuing summer, that has yet been experienced in this division of the world - Our own numbers we hope, will permit us to act offensively, which we have never yet done; but if they should not, our French Auxiliaries must certainly put <sup>it</sup> in our power - And here permit me to observe that an army composed of the same nation, cannot live in more harmony and good fellowship than the French and my countrymen - The French Officers are patterns of politeness, civility and temperance, and our most assuredly must be benefitted by such society - Never since their landing at New Port is there an instance of an outrage committed by them from the Commander in chief to the meanest rank and file - this conduct reflects the highest honor on their discipline. I should be happy as a man, could I say as much of the British and still happier as an Am<sup>r</sup>. did my own countrymen merit the eulogium -

I am happy you have had an opportunity of conversing with Mr. J. Adams, and wish you to cultivate his esteem, as I am persuaded no man has it more in his power to serve you with Congress or any of the Private States than he -

Sincerely lament the fate of Mr. H. Lawrence, in being carried into England, and am fearful it will derange your plans with respect to money matters - however I hope not -

By this conveyance, namely, the Alliance Frigate Capt. J<sup>r</sup>. Barry, goes passenger, Col<sup>l</sup>. Lawrence, son of W<sup>r</sup>. H. Lawrence, who is in a public character and sent expressly, it is said, with necessary powers for negotiating a loan, and to demand of France, in the most peremptory manner, their becoming guaranties - you are infinitely more capable, than I can possibly be, <sup>of judging</sup> how far such security may be deemed sufficient by any nation, or people individually, who are willing to lend money on good security - I have reason to think your house will be applied to on this business - perhaps before I close this letter it will be in my power to speak with more certainty

as



1781. a.  
as I shall this day dine in company with Mr. Lawrence  
you may depend I shall endeavour to find him on the  
subject —

When I was in Conn. Gov. Tumbul informed  
me what he had done with respect to a loan for the his  
State, and that he expected you would be able to effect it  
to the amt. proposed, which he mentioned — I wish he  
may not be deceived, as that sum in the hands of  
Conn. would render more important service to the  
general weal, than in any other — I am perfectly  
satisfied you will not be wanting on your part, but fear  
the impracticability of procuring so large an amount on  
the credit of any single State

Mr. Tho. Cushing is now Lieut. Governor of this State  
therefore will have it in his power to influence the  
measure of your appointment to the Agency &c —

Note your rec<sup>d</sup>. of the remittance of Capt. Craay for  
£4250, which when paid, no doubt will be carried to my  
C<sup>t</sup>. on acc<sup>t</sup>. in conformity, and that you will in due course  
advise me thereof with amt. &c. proceeds.

Find copy of a letter from you to my brother advising  
him that \$1472. 16. p<sup>ts</sup>. proceeds of a remittance from him  
on my acc<sup>t</sup>. was duly carried to my C<sup>t</sup>.

I am not a little surprized to find the \$300 draft in  
dec<sup>r</sup>. 1775, still to my debit, as I settled it with Messrs.  
Sears & Smith on the first voyage of the Abley Capt.  
Moses Grinnell — However they inform me it is now  
properly adjusted

You may depend my D<sup>r</sup>. Friends I am not a little  
mortified at the return of the bills in my favour by Thos.  
Gates, but I can assure you more on acc<sup>t</sup>. of my reputation  
than my interest, as the latter was amply secured to me  
before I put my hand to the bills — Note what you say  
with respect to the bill of £1000 Stg. made payable to  
Newman & C<sup>o</sup>. and doubt not you have duly honored it

The draft payable to Lane, Son & Snager, has met  
with a fate I did not expect, in being returned protested  
to St. Cuthbert. I have made provision for the amt. with  
damages and charges to be paid in the West Indies,  
but



but for fear the bill should not be there or that my remittance should not be duly honored, it may not be amiss to inform Lane, Son, & Trazer, that the amt. you expect will be paid thro your house, if not settled by the time you get information of it - The way I expect to pay it in the West-Indies is thro the channel of a French Island - I think it will not fail

Under some small apprehensions that the demand for payment may be made of me on the continent, I have made such provision as that in such case I shall not be embarrassed - In all events the holder cannot fail of being reimbursed for the amt. and damages - In case you settle it you'll observe that I have obligated the drawer to pay 20% damages &c on the two drafts amt. £4700 stg. therefore, if that should not be sufficient for damages (calculating them as if all sent back to St. Eust<sup>a</sup>.) interest, charges of protest &c. with comm<sup>t</sup> for your negotiating the whole amt., you'll please to advise me, that I may have recourse to the security, for the deficiency -

In consequence of Mr. T. Gales's conduct respecting those bills, he does not execute the plan. Antigua nor does the Ship Commanded by Capt. Brown proceed any part on his account, or to Virginia - Instead of which she will be owned by Stephen Hooper & Co. of Newbury-Port

Before I enter on the business of Newbury-Port, it may not be unnecessary to inform you that I returned from that place two days ago - I had the pleasure of a tete a tete with Mr. John Tracey - he spoke of your house in the most grateful and affectionate terms, and seemed so warmly impressed for services rec<sup>d</sup>, that I doubt not you have in him a friend of importance

Mr. Tracey has been rather unsuccessful previous to his connection with his brother Mr. Nathan<sup>l</sup>. Tracey, but since that period fortune is more favourable - Mr. Nath<sup>l</sup>.

Tracey is a man of a princely fortune, when he took his brother into the house of Nath<sup>l</sup> & J<sup>rs</sup>. Tracey, he lent him or rather the company, forty five thousand pounds sterling as stock in trade - his landed estate is imagined equal to as much more, and his own private stock in trade, very considerable; Thus you see my friends its by no means -



impolitic to be a little in advance for such people - They have now a fine ship of twenty guns fitting for your address and promise to bind their attention very much to a trade with your city - Depend on it you cannot have a more valuable count. - Except M<sup>r</sup>. R. Morris of Phil<sup>a</sup>. and they are not equalled for extensive commerce on the coast of Am<sup>er</sup>. In a few days have promised them another vessel therefore as a vessel sails within a week from Newbury for Ant<sup>wa</sup>. I shall add something by her on this subject; in the mean time it may not be amiss to return to M<sup>r</sup>. Hooper & C<sup>o</sup>.

In this firm are included M<sup>r</sup>. Stephen Hooper and M<sup>r</sup>. Tristram Dalton of Newbury Port - two gentlemen so very careful and secure in their business, that their most intimate enemies cannot say they ever knew them embarrassed - add to this that they are men of very large capitals - They were introduced to me at Newbury, and from some conversation that would naturally be introduced by me, they expressed a great desire of an introduction to you and to begin a correspondence - you may be assured I gave them every necessary encouragement -

At my instance and request these gentlemen purchased the on half of the ship commanded by Capt. Brown. M<sup>r</sup>. Sam<sup>l</sup>. Broom one quarter and myself the other one quarter; and agreed to send her to Port au Prince or Cape Francois (no doubt it will be the former) for a load of sugars, for the purchase of which I have in hand bills of exchange on the latter place, for nearly as much as will load her, and from thence to Amsterdam - She sails very fast - you will be duly advised if she arrives in order that insurance may be made if possible - The change of owners will naturally delay her sailing, therefore it will be nearly a fortnight before she sails from London, where she now is - The M<sup>r</sup>. proceeds of her cargo if she arrives with you, will be carried to the C<sup>o</sup> of M<sup>r</sup>. Hooper & C<sup>o</sup>. for the purpose of completing the payment of good orders for and by said company to be shipped on board a brig that sails for France to be sheathed with copper and then to proceed to Amsterdam to take in said goods - Directions &c. respecting



respecting said goods you will receive with dispatches by said vessel on her arrival in France, and I doubt not your ready attention to them.

Messrs. Sears and Smiths remittance on my acct. Whinnell was 67,400 livres - by this conveyance they forward second bills - I had hoped it would have been in my power to have added alike sum, now to it, as the opportunity is very good, but have been disappointed by the post's not arriving in time - I am fearful they will not be ready for the brig, however, apply's will now be very frequent - therefore you may expect shortly after rec<sup>d</sup>. of this an amt. not much, if any, less -

By the Alliance goes passenger M<sup>r</sup>. David Dickson to ~~here~~ I have given a letter to your house - he expects to remain in your city during the contest, for the purpose of transacting business for a circle of his friends - As he is not a man of great abilities, his being with you cannot give us much cause of fear, yet it can be no disadvantage to pay him some attention, attracted from the civility due him as a gentleman - Likewise by the same vessel a M<sup>r</sup>. Murray a young gentleman, who formerly lived with Clarke & Kightings of Providence - I believe he has been concerned with M<sup>r</sup>. Merry - he passes thro' your city on his way to London - he wishes to know what the average will be on the Madeira salvage, and expects to settle a certain part of it with you for which he is authorized - I hope you will be prepared - You will remember that M<sup>r</sup>. Corlis is already paid what his proportion can be for all the goods shipped by him -

Wish to be furnished with the whole amt. of the vessel and cargo ships, then with the M<sup>r</sup>. proceeds of salvage and proportion of average, and in a separate acct. a list of the proprietors and their respective amounts - A M<sup>r</sup>. Scott of London it seems, ships a small amt. for the use of his family now in Boston, amt. £42, Stg. or thereabout, this I have settled with M<sup>r</sup>. Scott supposing <sup>an average</sup> salvage for the present, as she seems to want it, therefore instead of paying salvage on that parcel, you'd please carry it to my Cr<sup>d</sup> and advise me thereof -

This -



1781, C

may. Take the liberty to introduce Mr. Geo. Gibbs of  
New Port to your house and have furnish him with necessary  
letters - you may depend that what I have said in his favour  
he at least merits -

Febry 6. 1781 -

Since writing the preceeding have overlooked  
the sloop Abbeys acct and find you have already debited  
owners of that vessel for the £300. I enclose you a sketch  
of the acct. for your government. -

With great esteem believe me  
my D<sup>r</sup> friends -

Sincerely Yours  
James Jarvis  
JJJ



Ms. R. 1. 1 p. 71-74  
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26

COL. FAR  
L'ORIENT

Messrs. John De Meville & Son

20

Merchants

of the Alliance  
Capt. Barry

Amsterdam



James Farver

Ms. R. 1. 1 p. 71-74

Bottom & Perry  
James Farver  
Messrs. De Meville & Son  
Amsterdam

